# Kentucky

Nutrition and Physical Activity Program to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases

## The Epidemic

63% of Kentucky adults are obese or overweight. (CDC BRFSS, 2002)

35% of low-income children between two and five years of age in Kentucky are overweight or at risk for overweight.

(CDC PedNSS, 2002)

The obesity rate among Kentucky adults doubled between 1990 and 2002. (CDC BRFSS, 2002)

#### **Notable Partners**

American Heart Association
Kentucky Cardiovascular Health Coalition
Kentucky Department of Education
Kentucky Diabetes Network
Lexington-Fayette County Health Department
University of Kentucky Prevention Research
Center
University of S. Florida Prevention Research
Center

## **Program Priorities**

Kentucky is establishing a steering committee to help decide how to approach the development of a state plan.

The overarching goal of the nutrition and physical activity program is to transform the way agencies and organizations throughout Kentucky cooperate to reduce obesity and other chronic diseases.

The Kentucky Department of Public Health will use the opportunity afforded by CDC funding to bring together key players in the area of obesity prevention to develop a coordinated state plan. The plan will follow the best practices identified by CDC's Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity and other experts and will take advantage of the many resources already existing in communities throughout Kentucky.

### **Upcoming Events and Products**

- ➤ An evaluation of the impact of the breastfeeding initiative started by the Department of Public Health in 2001
- ➤ A State Physical Activity, Nutrition and Obesity Prevention Plan in which partners across the state take responsibility for specific target populations and/or activities

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